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In re Application of: **Hiang-Swee Chiang** Confirmation No.: **1362**
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Filing Date: **March 20, 2001** Examiner: **Beemnet W. Dada**
For: **Transparent User And Session Management For Web Application**

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Sir:

APPELLANT'S BRIEF PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

This brief is being filed in support of Appellant's appeal from the rejections of claims 1 through 78 dated May 31, 2006. A Notice of Appeal was filed on November 30, 2006.

An initial appeal brief was submitted March 6, 2007. This brief is filed in response to a Notice of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed on April 24, 2007.

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APPELLANT'S BRIEF PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

This brief is being filed in support of Appellant's appeal from the rejections of claims 1-78 dated May 31, 2006. A Notice of Appeal was filed on November 30, 2006.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

Gutenberg Printing LLC is the real party of interest by virtue of an assignment recorded October 4, 2004 at Reel 015123, Frame 0050.

II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

The Applicant, the Applicant's legal representative and the real party-in-interest are unaware of any appeals or interferences that are related to this appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS**A. Total Number of Claims in Application**

There are seventy-eight (78) claims pending in this application.

B. Current Status of Claims

Claims 1 through 78 are pending. Claims 1 through 78 stand rejected.

C. Claims On Appeal

Claims 1 through 78 are on appeal.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendments have been proposed subsequent to the final rejection dated May 31, 2006.

V. SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant discloses systems and methods wherein a single session cookie is provided to a user for all requests in a single user session. (Abstract). A user database is maintained by a central server which stores the session cookie and correlates it to a web application

instance, which is identified by system variables stored in the database rather than with application variables maintained by an application instance. (Abstract).

For each request with the cookie after successful sign-in, the runtime environment uses the cookie value to identify the user from whom the request originated, retrieve the instance of a user object corresponding to that particular user, and pass the request to the user object. (p. 14, 1st ¶). The user object in turn uses the URL within the request to identify the web application that is targeted. (*Id.*) If an instance of the web application has not been created, the user object will create a new instance of the web application. (*Id.*) After that, the user object simply passes the request to the web application instance. (*Id.*) The web application instance processes the request, stores any application states in its instance variables and then returns a response. (*Id.*)

There are thirty-one (31) independent claims: 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 18, 19, 20, 26, 27, 28, 29, 35, 36, 37, 38, 44, 45, 46, 47, 55, 56, 57, 58, 65, 66, 67, 68, 75, and 77. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 41.37(c)(v), provided below for each of the independent claims is a concise explanation of the defined subject matter including references to specification and characters.

A. Independent Claim 1

Claim 1 is directed to a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). In the recited method, a first request for an application instance is received from a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503; page 4, fourth paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The request includes a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 4, fourth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The recited method further comprises transmitting an application instance response to the user based on stored user and session system information (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 4, fourth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

B. Independent Claim 7

Claim 7 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5; page 9, second paragraph – page 15, second paragraph). The recited apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a first

request from a user for an application instance (page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408; page 4, fourth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The request includes a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 4, fourth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The recited apparatus further comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for transmitting an application instance response to the user based on stored user and session system information (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 4, fourth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

C. Independent Claim 8

Claim 8 is directed to a method for performing user and session management over a computer network comprising a processor (Fig. 2, reference 20) and a memory (Fig. 2, reference 22) in communication with the processor (Page 10, third paragraph). The memory stores a plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to receive a first request from a user for an application instance. The request includes a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 4, fourth paragraph). Thereafter, an application instance response is transmitted to the user based on stored user and session system information (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412, page 14, first paragraph; page 4, fourth paragraph).

D. Independent Claim 9

Claim 9 recites a computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Fig. 2, reference 22, 24; Page 11, fourth paragraph; Page 12, first paragraph). In the recited method, a first request for an application instance is received from a user. The request includes a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 14, first paragraph; page four, fourth paragraph). The recited method further comprises transmitting an application instance response to the user based on stored user and session system information (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 14, first paragraph; page four, fourth paragraph).

E. Independent Claim 10

Claim 10 is directed to a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). The method comprises receiving a request for an application instance from a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503; page 4, fifth paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A single identifier that identifies both a session and a user is assigned to the user for handling all user requests (Fig. 4, reference 408; Fig. 5, reference 504; page 4, fifth paragraph; page 13, second paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The method further comprises transmitting an application instance response to the user, wherein the single identifier is static for all requests from the user for a session (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; Fig. 5, reference 505; page 4, fifth paragraph; page 14, first and second paragraph).

F. Independent Claim 17

Claim 17 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5; page 9, second paragraph – page 15, second paragraph). The apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a request for an application instance from a user (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 4, fifth paragraph). The apparatus also comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for assigning a single identifier to the user for handling all user requests (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 4, fifth paragraph). Finally, the apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for transmitting an application instance response to the user, wherein the single identifier is static for all requests from the user for a session (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 14, first paragraph; page 4, fifth paragraph).

G. Independent Claim 18

Claim 18 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network. The apparatus comprises a processor (Fig. 2, reference 20) and a memory (Fig. 2, reference 22) in communication with the processor. The memory stores a

plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to perform steps. The memory stores instructions enabling the processor to receive a request for an application instance from a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503; page 4, fifth paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The memory also stores instructions enabling the processor to assign a single identifier to the user used to identify both a session and a user for handling all user requests (Fig. 4, reference 408; Fig. 5, reference 504; page 4, fifth paragraph; page 13, second paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). Finally, the memory also stores instructions enabling the processor to transmit an application instance response to the user, wherein the single identifier is static for all requests from the user for a session (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; Fig. 5, reference 505; page 4, fifth paragraph; page 14, first and second paragraph).

H. Independent Claim 19

Claim 19 is directed to a computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Fig. 2, reference 22, 24; Page 11, fourth paragraph; Page 12, first paragraph). In the recited method, a request for an application instance is received from a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503; page 4, fifth paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A single identifier is assigned to the user and is used to identify both a session and a user for handling all user requests (Fig. 4, reference 408; Fig. 5, reference 504; page 4, fifth paragraph; page 13, second paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). Thereafter, an application instance response is transmitted to the user, wherein the single identifier is static for all requests from the user for a session (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; Fig. 5, reference 505; page 4, fifth paragraph; page 14, first and second paragraph).

I. Independent Claim 20

Claim 20 is directed to a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). The method comprises receiving a first request from a user for a first application instance, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 4,

sixth paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A first application instance response is transmitted to the user (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; Fig. 5, reference 505; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first and second paragraph). The method further comprises receiving a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The request is processed with the second application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

J. Independent Claim 26

Claim 26 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 9, second paragraph – page 15, second paragraph). The apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a first request from a user for a first application instance, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 4, sixth paragraph). The apparatus further comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for transmitting a first application instance response to the user (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 14, first paragraph; page 4, sixth paragraph). The apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 4, sixth paragraph). The apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for processing the request with the second application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

K. Independent Claim 27

Claim 27 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network. The apparatus comprises a processor (Fig. 2, reference 20) and a memory (Fig. 2, reference 22) in communication with the processor. The memory stores a plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to perform steps. The memory stores instructions enabling the processor to receive a first request from a user for a first application instance, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 4,

sixth paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A first application instance response is transmitted to the user (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; Fig. 5, reference 505; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first and second paragraph). The method further comprises receiving a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The request is processed with the second application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

L. Independent Claim 28

Claim 28 is directed to a computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Fig. 2, reference 22, 24; Page 11, fourth paragraph; Page 12, first paragraph). The method comprises receiving a first request from a user for a first application instance, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A first application instance response is transmitted to the user (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; Fig. 5, reference 505; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first and second paragraph). The method further comprises receiving a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The request is processed with the second application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411; page 4, sixth paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

M. Independent Claim 29

Claim 29 is directed to a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 5, first paragraph; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). The method comprises receiving, from a user, a first request in a first session, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, first paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A first application instance response is transmitted to the user in response to the first request (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; Fig. 5, reference 505; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first and second paragraph). The

method further comprises receiving, from the user, a second request in a second session, the second user request including the identifier (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The second request is processed through the first application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

N. Independent Claim 35

Claim 35 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network. The recited apparatus comprises a processor (Fig. 2, reference 20) and a memory (Fig. 2, reference 22) in communication with the processor. The memory stores instructions for receiving, from a user, a first request in a first session, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user. A first application instance response is transmitted to the user in response to the first request (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; Fig. 5, reference 505; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first and second paragraph). The memory further comprises instructions for receiving, from the user, a second request in a second session, the second user request including the identifier (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The second request is processed through the first application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

O. Independent Claim 36

Claim 36 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5; page 5, first paragraph; page 9, second paragraph – page 15, second paragraph). The apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving, from a user, a first request in a first session, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 5, first paragraph). The apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for transmitting a first application instance response to the user in response to the first request (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 14, first paragraph; page 5, first paragraph). The apparatus further comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving, from the user, a second request in a second session, the second user request including the identifier (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 5, first paragraph). The apparatus further comprises means

(Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for processing the second request through the first application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

P. Independent Claim 37

Claim 37 is directed to a computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Fig. 2, reference 22, 24; Page 11, fourth paragraph; Page 12, first paragraph). The method comprises receiving, from a user, a first request in a first session, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, first paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A first application instance response is transmitted to the user in response to the first request (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; Fig. 5, reference 505; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first and second paragraph). The method further comprises receiving, from the user, a second request in a second session, the second user request including the identifier (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The second request is processed through the first application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411; page 5, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

Q. Independent Claim 38

Claim 38 is directed to a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 5, second paragraph; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). The method comprises receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, second paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The method further comprises receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method still further comprises transmitting a response to the first and second requests, based on the identifier and a system session variable stored for each of the first and second user sessions (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 5, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

R. Independent Claim 44

Claim 44 recites an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5; page 5, second paragraph; page 9, second paragraph – page 15, second paragraph). The apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 5, second paragraph). The apparatus further comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 5, second paragraph). Still further, the apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for transmitting a response to the first and second requests, based on the identifier and a system session variable stored for each of the first and second user sessions (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 5, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

S. Independent Claim 45

Claim 45 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network. The apparatus comprises a processor (Fig. 2, reference 20) and a memory (Fig. 2, reference 22) in communication with the processor. The memory stores instructions for receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, second paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The memory further comprises instructions for receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The memory still further comprises instructions for transmitting a response to the first and second requests, based on the identifier and a system session variable stored for each of the first and second user sessions (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 5, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

T. Independent Claim 46

Claim 46 is directed to a computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Fig. 2, reference 22, 24; Page 11, fourth paragraph; Page 12, first paragraph). The method comprises receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, second paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The method further comprises receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method still further comprises transmitting a response to the first and second requests, based on the identifier and a system session variable stored for each of the first and second user sessions (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 5, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

U. Independent Claim 47

Claim 47 is directed to a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 5, third paragraph; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). The method comprises receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, second paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The method comprises transmitting a first response to the first request, based on the identifier and a first system session variable stored in a user database (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method also comprises receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method still further comprises transmitting a second response to the second request, based on the identifier and a second system session variable stored in the user database (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

V. Independent Claim 55

Claim 55 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5; page 5, third paragraph; page 9, second paragraph – page 15, second paragraph). The apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 5, third paragraph). The apparatus further comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for transmitting a first response to the first request, based on the identifier and a first system session variable stored in a user database (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The apparatus also comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 5, third paragraph). The apparatus still further comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for transmitting a second response to the second request, based on the identifier and a second system session variable stored in the user database (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

W. Independent Claim 56

Claim 56 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network. The recited apparatus comprises a processor (Fig. 2, reference 20) and a memory (Fig. 2, reference 22) in communication with the processor. The memory stores instructions for receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, third paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The memory also stores instructions for transmitting a first response to the first request, based on the identifier and a first system session variable stored in a user database (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The memory also stores instructions for receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The memory still further stores instructions for transmitting a second response to

the second request, based on the identifier and a second system session variable stored in the user database (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

X. Independent Claim 57

Claim 57 is directed to a computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Fig. 2, reference 22, 24; Page 11, fourth paragraph; Page 12, first paragraph). The method comprises receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, second paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The method comprises transmitting a first response to the first request, based on the identifier and a first system session variable stored in a user database (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method also comprises receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method still further comprises transmitting a second response to the second request, based on the identifier and a second system session variable stored in the user database (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

Y. Independent Claim 58

Claim 58 is directed to a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). The method comprises receiving a first request from a first user, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the first user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The method further comprises receiving a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method still further comprises generating a first application instance responsive to the first identifier and a

second application instance responsive to the second identifier (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

Z. Independent Claim 65

Claim 65 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 9, second paragraph – page 15, second paragraph). The apparatus comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a first request from a first user, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the first user (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph). The apparatus also comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for receiving a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user (Page 10, third paragraph; Fig. 4, reference 408, page 14, first paragraph; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph). The apparatus still further comprises means (Fig. 2, reference 20, 22, 24) for generating a first application instance responsive to the first identifier and a second application instance responsive to the second identifier (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

AA. Independent Claim 66

Claim 66 is directed to an apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network. The recited apparatus comprises a processor (Fig. 2, reference 20) and a memory (Fig. 2, reference 22) in communication with the processor. The memory has instructions stored thereon for receiving a first request from a first user, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the first user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The memory also comprises instructions for receiving a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The memory still further comprises instructions for generating a first application instance responsive to the first identifier and a

second application instance responsive to the second identifier (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

BB. Independent Claim 67

Claim 67 is directed to a computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Fig. 2, reference 22, 24; Page 11, fourth paragraph; Page 12, first paragraph). The method comprises receiving a first request from a first user, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the first user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The method further comprises receiving a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method still further comprises generating a first application instance responsive to the first identifier and a second application instance responsive to the second identifier (Fig. 4, reference 412; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

CC. Independent Claim 68

Claim 68 is directed to a method for performing user and session management over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 5, fourth paragraph – page 6, first paragraph; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). The method comprises receiving, from a first user, a first request in a first session, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 6, second paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A first application instance is transmitted to the first user in response to the first request (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 6, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method also comprises receiving, from the first user, a second request in a second session, the second request including the first identifier (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The second request is processed through the first application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 6, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The

method also comprises receiving, from a second user, a third request in a third user session, the third request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user (Fig. 4, reference 408; page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). A second application instance is transmitted to the second user in response to the third request (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 6, second paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

DD. Independent Claim 75

Claim 75 is directed to a method for interacting with a central server over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 6, third paragraph; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). The recited method comprises transmitting a first request to a central server, the first request including a user identifier (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 6, third paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). The method further comprises receiving a first application instance in response to the first request (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 6, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). A second request is transmitted to the central server, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; page 6, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). A response is then received to the second request from the application instance (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 6, third paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

EE. Independent Claim 77

Claim 77 is directed to a method for interacting with a central server over a computer network (Figs. 5, 4, 3; page 6, fourth paragraph – page 7, first paragraph; page 12, second paragraph - page 15, second paragraph). The method comprises transmitting a first request to a central server in a first user session, the first request including a user identifier (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 6, fourth paragraph – page 7, first paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A first application instance is received in response to the first request (Fig. 4, reference 411, 412; page 6, fourth paragraph – page 7, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph). The method further comprises transmitting a second request to the central server in a second user session, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without

further user or session application variables (Fig. 4, references 401, 402, 403, 408; Fig. 5, reference 501, 502, 503, 504; page 6, fourth paragraph – page 7, first paragraph; page 13, first paragraph; page 14, second paragraph). A response to the second request is received from the application instance (Fig. 4, references 411, 412; page 6, fourth paragraph – page 7, first paragraph; page 14, first paragraph).

VI. GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Whether the rejection of claims 1, 3-10, 12-20, 22-29, 31-38, 40-49, 51-59, 61-69 and 71-78 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Wood (US Patent No. 6,668,322 B1) in view of Zhao (US Patent 6,035,404) is proper.

Whether the rejection of claims 2, 11, 21, 30, 39, 50, 60 and 70 as being unpatentable over Wood in view of Zhao and Gupta (US Patent No. 6,226,752) is proper.

VII. ARGUMENT

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-20, 22-29, 31-38, 40-49, 51-59, 61-69, and 71-78 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Wood in view of Zhao. Applicant respectfully submits that the cited references do not render the claims obvious.

A. Wood and Zhao do not teach “receiving . . . [a] request including a single identifier used to identify *both a session and a user* for all user requests”

Applicant’s representative claim 1 reads as follows:

A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:
receiving a first request from a user for an application instance, **the request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables**; and
transmitting an application instance response to the user based on stored user and session system information.

In order to establish a prima facie case of obviousness, the references must teach all of the recited claim language and teach combining the references to form the recited combination. *See* M.P.E.P. § 2143.03 (“[t]o establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art.”) Applicant respectfully

submits that Wood and Zhao do not teach the claim language emphasized above, and, therefore, cannot possibly suggest the recited combination.

The Examiner acknowledges that Wood, which is the primary reference relied upon for the rejection, does not disclose “receiving . . . a request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all requests.” *See* (Final Office Action dated May 31, 2007, p. 4). However, the Examiner contends that Zhao cures this deficiency. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Zhao does not disclose or suggest “receiving . . . [a] request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user.”

Zhao discloses a system and method for managing user logins to a restricted computer service. (Zhao, Abstract). The disclosed system keeps track of concurrent users assigned to a common account or ID number and permits logins to single user accounts. (Zhao, Col. 2, ll. 10-14). A user login map (ULM) is used to keep track of the number of users logged onto the system. (Zhao, Col. 2, ll. 15-16). A user attempting to log into the system enters a user ID and password. (Zhao, Col. 2, ll. 26-27). Once the ID and password are verified, the system obtains a user mask and an internal user ID (IUID) from the user’s profile area. The user mask defines the area in the user login map that must be checked to determine if a login will be permitted. (Zhao, Col. 2, ll. 26-34).

For a single account user, one bit in the login map is examined to see if there is already a login under that account, or same IUID. If the map indicates there is already a login under that account, access is denied. (Zhao, Col. 2, ll. 34-37).

For a concurrent or multiple user account, more than one bit in the login map is examined to see if the maximum number of logins already exist. If the maximum has not been met, the requested login is permitted. If the maximum number of logins already exists, the system sets a time-out period for the session that has been in progress the longest. (Zhao, Col. 2, ll. 43-47).

Thus, the focus of Zhao is on determining whether too many users are logged into an account. Importantly, Zhao makes this determination after receiving a **user ID** and **password**. Neither the user ID nor the password are a “single identifier used to identify both a session and a user” as recited in the claim. Zhao does **not** teach “receiving . . . [a] request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user.”

In support of the rejection, the Examiner cites to column 5, lines 39-67 and Figure 6 of Zhao and specifically to its disclosure of “Session ID associated with IUID & Start Time

and Time Out.” (Final Office Action dated May 31, 2007, p. 4). Figure 6 and the referenced section of Zhao disclose a state lookup table 24. According to Zhao, “[w]hen a user attempts to log on, the state lookup table is used for various functions, such as recording session ID’s, active users, and determining the status of logins already in progress.” (Zhao, Col. 5, ll. 40-43). Zhao further explains that “each session, which is established after a user login, has an entry created in the table. A session ID 48 is generated dynamically for a session.” (Zhao, Col. 5, ll. 47-50). “The internal user ID (IUID) for the session is also entered into the state lookup table. The IUID is obtained from the user profile data in the same manner as the user mask.” (Zhao, Col. 5, ll. 54-56). “Both are obtained when the user accomplishes the normal login procedure, such as entering his own user ID and password successfully.” (Zhao, Col. 5, ll. 56-59).

In contradistinction to claim 1, Zhao does not teach “receiving . . . a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user.” Rather, Zhao teaches receiving *user ID’s and passwords*. Zhao teaches that the session ID, which is relied to support the rejection, is **not** received in a user request. Rather, Zhao teaches that the session ID is ***generated and maintained internally*** in the state lookup table. Furthermore, Zhao does **not** teach that the session ID identifies **both** a session and a user. To the contrary, Zhao discloses in the state lookup table 24 of Figure 6, that each session ID is stored in relation to a internal user ID. It is entirely possible that the session ID’s taught by Zhao could be repeated between users. For example, a session ID 001001 could be associated with user interface ID 1000, but may also be associated with internal user interface ID 1001.

Thus, neither Zhao nor Wood teach or suggest “receiving . . . [a] request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user.” Accordingly, one skilled in the art could not combine the references to form the recited combination of claim 1.¹ Accordingly, claim 1 is not rendered obvious.

B. There is no motivation to combine Wood and Zhao to form the recited combination

¹ We note that the Examiner contends that “it is old and well known in the art to identify both a session and a user by a single identifier.” In support of this argument, the Examiner cites the Zhao. As explained herein, Zhao does not disclose the recited features of the claim. In fact, it is not old and well known in the art to identify both a session and a user by a single identifier.

Furthermore, even assuming for the purpose of argument, that Zhao taught “receiving . . . [a] request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user” (which it does not), neither Wood nor Zhao teach or suggest combining the teachings of the reference to form the recited combination. The Examiner alleges that “[i]t would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant’s invention to employ the teachings of Zhao with the system of Wood thereby *enhancing the security of the system.*” But Zhao does not teach or suggest that its use of a particular number of identifiers enhances the security of the system. Furthermore, the Examiner admits Wood does not teach the recited language of the claim and therefore can not possibly teach that the recited feature enhances security. Thus, neither Zhao nor Wood teach the suggestion, *i.e.* enhanced security, that is the alleged motivation of the combination. Of course, the recited combination of claim 1 is not obvious, which is exactly the reason why neither Zhao nor Wood teach the recited combination. The Examiner’s arguments for combining the references is motivated not by the references or the teachings of the prior art, but rather, by impermissible hindsight.

Indeed, Wood **actually teaches away** from combining to form the recited combination. The Final Rejection correlates the “session identifier” of Wood to the “single identifier” of claim 1. (Final Rejection dated May 31, 2006, pp. 2-3). But at column 8, lines 9-25, Wood describes using *two separate identifiers* within a session to identify the session and the user. In particular, Wood teaches using “session id” and “principal id.” Also, Wood describes that there are additional user session and application variables, namely, “a trust level, group ids, a creation time, and expiration time.” In Wood, the trust level is associated with the unique principal id and “serves as a basis for evaluating whether a *principal* associated with the session credentials has been authenticated to a sufficient level...” (emphasis added) (Col. 8, lines 26-30). If the same id were used for the session and user, it would not be possible to evaluate user authentication using the trust level, as required by Wood. Thus, modifying Wood to include the “single identifier” and not a trust level would render Wood unsatisfactory for this intended purpose.

C. Conclusion

Therefore, because neither Wood nor Zhao teach all of the recited claim language, the references cannot be combined to form the recited combination of claim 1 and all claims depending therefrom. *See* M.P.E.P. § 2143.03. Furthermore, even if Wood or Zhao taught

the recited language of the claims, there is no motivation to combine the references to form the recited combination. For similar reasons, independent claims 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 18, 19, 20, 26, 27, 28, 29, 35, 36, 38, 44, 45, 46, 47, 55, 56, 57, 58, 65, 66, 67, 68, 75, and 77 , and all claims depending therefrom are patentable over the cited references. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) was improper. For the all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests that the Board reverse the rejections.

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VIII. CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. (Previously Presented) A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:
 - receiving a first request from a user for an application instance, the request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables; and
 - transmitting an application instance response to the user based on stored user and session system information.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the single identifier includes a random number associated with the user.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - authenticating an identification of the user; and
 - assigning the single identifier to the user.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said authenticating comprises:
 - transmitting a request for a user name and a password to the user;
 - receiving the user name and password from the user; and
 - comparing the user name and password to stored parameters.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - receiving a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier; and
 - processing the request with the application instance.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - receiving a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier corresponding to the second user; and
 - generating a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.
7. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

means for receiving a first request from a user for an application instance, the request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables; and

means for transmitting an application instance response to the user based on stored user and session system information.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory in communication with the processor, the memory for storing a plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to:

receive a first request from a user for an application instance, the request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables; and

transmit an application instance response to the user based on stored user and session system information.

9. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network, the method comprising:

receiving a first request from a user for an application instance, the request including a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user for all user requests without further user and session application variables; and

transmitting an application instance response to the user based on stored user and session system information.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

receiving a request for an application instance from a user;

assigning a single identifier used to identify both a session and a user to the user for handling all user requests; and

transmitting an application instance response to the user, wherein the single identifier is static for all requests from the user for a session.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the single identifier is a random number.
12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the single identifier does not include user or session application variables for use by the application instance.
13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said assigning further comprises:
authenticating an identification of the user.
14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said authenticating comprises:
transmitting a request for a user name and a password to the user;
receiving the user name and password from the user; and
comparing the user name and password to stored parameters.
15. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
receiving a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier; and
processing the request with the second application instance, while maintaining the first application instance.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier corresponding to the second user; and
generating a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.
17. (Original) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:
means for receiving a request for an application instance from a user;
means for assigning a single identifier to the user for handling all user requests; and
means for transmitting an application instance response to the user, wherein the single identifier is static for all requests from the user for a session.
18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:
a processor; and

a memory in communication with the processor, the memory for storing a plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to:

receive a request for an application instance from a user; assign a single identifier to the user used to identify both a session and a user for handling all user requests; and transmit an application instance response to the user, wherein the single identifier is static for all requests from the user for a session.

19. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network, the method comprising:

receiving a request for an application instance from a user;
assigning a single identifier to the user used to identify both a session and a user for handling all user requests; and
transmitting an application instance response to the user, wherein the single identifier is static for all requests from the user for a session.

20. (Previously Presented) A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

receiving a first request from a user for a first application instance, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user;
transmitting a first application instance response to the user;
receiving a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier; and
processing the request with the second application instance.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein the identifier is a random number.

22. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the identifier does not include user or session variables for use by the application instance.

23. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising:
authenticating an identification of the user; and
assigning the identifier to the user

24. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said authenticating comprises:

transmitting a request for a user name and a password to the user;
receiving the user name and password from the user; and
comparing the user name and password to stored parameters.

25. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising:
receiving a third request from a second user, the third request including a second identifier corresponding to the second user; and
generating a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.
26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:
means for receiving a first request from a user for a first application instance, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user;
means for transmitting a first application instance response to the user;
means for receiving a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier; and
means for processing the request with the second application instance.
27. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:
a processor; and
a memory in communication with the processor, the memory for storing a plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to:
receive a first request from a user for a first application instance, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user;
transmit a first application instance response to the user; receive a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier; and
process the request with the second application instance.
28. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network, the method comprising:

receiving a first request from a user for a first application instance, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user;

transmitting a first application instance response to the user;

receiving a second request from the user for a second application instance, the second request including the identifier; and

processing the request with the second application instance.

29. (Previously Presented) A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

receiving, from a user, a first request in a first session, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user;

transmitting a first application instance response to the user in response to the first request;

receiving, from the user, a second request in a second session, the second user request including the identifier; and

processing the second request through the first application instance.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the first identifier includes a random number associated with the user.

31. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

authenticating an identification of the user; and

assigning the identifier to the user.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein said authenticating comprises:

transmitting a request for a user name and a password to the user;

receiving the user name and password from the user; and

comparing the user name and password to stored parameters.

33. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

receiving a third request from the user in the first user session, the third request including the identifier; and

processing the request with the application instance.

34. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

receiving a third request from a second user, the third request including a second identifier corresponding to the second user; and

generating a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.

35. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory in communication with the processor, the memory for storing a plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to:

receive, from a user, a first request in a first session, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user;

transmit a first application instance response to the user in response to the first request;

receive, from the user, a second request in a second session, the second user request including the identifier; and

process the second request through the first application instance.

36. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

means for receiving, from a user, a first request in a first session, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user;

means for transmitting a first application instance response to the user in response to the first request;

means for receiving, from the user, a second request in a second session, the second user request including the identifier; and

means for processing the second request through the first application instance.

37. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network, the method comprising:

receiving, from a user, a first request in a first session, the first request including an identifier used to identify both a session and a user;

transmitting a first application instance response to the user in response to the first request;

receiving, from the user, a second request in a second session, the second user request including the identifier; and
processing the second request through the first application instance.

38. (Previously Presented) A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier;

receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables; and

transmitting a response to the first and second requests, based on the identifier and a system session variable stored for each of the first and second user sessions.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the single identifier includes a random number associated with the user.

40. (Original) The method of claim 38, further comprising:
authenticating an identification of the user; and
assigning the identifier to the user.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein said authenticating comprises:
transmitting a request for a user name and a password to the user;
receiving the user name and password from the user; and
comparing the user name and password to stored parameters.

42. (Original) The method of claim 38, further comprising:
receiving a third request from one of the first and the second user sessions, the third request including the identifier; and
processing the request with the application instance.

43. (Original) The method of claim 38, further comprising:
receiving a third request from a second user, the third request including a second identifier corresponding to the second user; and
generating a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.

44. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

means for receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier;

means for receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables; and

means for transmitting a response to the first and second requests, based on the identifier and a system session variable stored for each of the first and second user sessions.

45. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory in communication with the processor, the memory for storing a plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to:

receive a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier;

receive a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application

variables; and

transmit a response to the first and second requests, based on the identifier and a system session variable stored for each of the first and second user sessions.

46. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier;

receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables; and

transmitting a response to the first and second requests, based on the identifier and a system session variable stored for each of the first and second user sessions.

47. (Previously Presented) A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier; and

transmitting a first response to the first request, based on the identifier and a first system session variable stored in a user database.

receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables; and

transmitting a second response to the second request, based on the identifier and a second system session variable stored in the user database.

48. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein the first response and the second response are generated from a single application instance.

49. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein the identifier does not include further user and session variables for use by the application instance.

50. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein the identifier includes a random number associated with the user.

51. (Original) The method of claim 47, further comprising:

authenticating an identification of the user; and

assigning the single identifier to the user.

52. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein said authenticating comprises:

transmitting a request for a user name and a password to the user;

receiving the user name and password from the user; and

comparing the user name and password to stored parameters.

53. (Original) The method of claim 48, further comprising:

receiving a third request from the user in the first user session, the third request including the identifier; and
processing the request with the application instance.

54. (Original) The method of claim 47, further comprising:

receiving a third request from a second user, the third request including a second identifier corresponding to the second user; and
generating a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.

55. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

means for receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier; and

means for transmitting a first response to the first request, based on the identifier and a first system session variable stored in a user database.

means for receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables; and

means for transmitting a second response to the second request, based on the identifier and a second system session variable stored in the user database.

56. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

a processor; and

a memory in communication with the processor, the memory for storing a plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to:

receive a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier; and

transmit a first response to the first request, based on the identifier and a first system session variable stored in a user database.

receive a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables; and

transmit a second response to the second request, based on the identifier and a second system session variable stored in the user database.

57. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network, the method comprising:

receiving a first request from a first user session for a user, the first request including an identifier; and

transmitting a first response to the first request, based on the identifier and a first system session variable stored in a user database.

receiving a second request from a second user session for the user, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session variables; and

transmitting a second response to the second request, based on the identifier and a second system session variable stored in the user database.

58. (Previously Presented) A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

receiving a first request from a first user, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the first user;

receiving a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user; and

generating a first application instance responsive to the first identifier and a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.

59. (Original) The method of claim 58, wherein the first identifier and the second identifier do not include user and session application variables for use by the first and the second application instances.

60. (Original) The method of claim 58, wherein the first identifier includes a random number associated with the first user and the second identifier includes a second random number associated with the second user.

61. (Original) The method of claim 58, further comprising:

authenticating an identification of the first and second users; and
assigning the first identifier to the first user and the second identifier to the second user.

62. (Original) The method of claim 61, wherein said authenticating comprises:
transmitting a request for a user name and a password to the user;
receiving the user name and password from the user; and
comparing the user name and password to stored parameters.
63. (Original) The method of claim 58, further comprising:
receiving a third request from the first user, the third request including the first identifier; and
processing the request with the first application instance.
64. (Original) The method of claim 58, further comprising:
receiving a third request from the second user, the third request including the second identifier; and
processing the request with the second application instance.
65. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:
means for receiving a first request from a first user, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the first user;
means for receiving a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user; and
means for generating a first application instance responsive to the first identifier and a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.
66. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:
a processor; and
a memory in communication with the processor, the memory for storing a plurality of processing instructions for enabling the processor to:

receive a first request from a first user, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the first user;

receive a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user;
and

generate a first application instance responsive to the first identifier and a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.

67. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium encoded with processing instructions for implementing a method for performing user and session management over a computer network, the method comprising:

receiving a first request from a first user, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the first user;

receiving a second request from a second user, the second request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user; and

generating a first application instance responsive to the first identifier and a second application instance responsive to the second identifier.

68. (Previously Presented) A method for performing user and session management over a computer network, comprising:

receiving, from a first user, a first request in a first session, the first request including a first identifier used to identify both a session and a user;

transmitting a first application instance to the first user in response to the first request;

receiving, from the first user, a second request in a second session, the second request including the first identifier;

processing the second request through the first application instance;

receiving, from a second user, a third request in a third user session, the third request including a second identifier used to identify both a session and a user corresponding to the second user; and

transmitting a second application instance to the second user in response to the third request.

69. (Original) The method of claim 68, wherein the first identifier and the second identifier do not include further user and session application variables for use by the first and the second application instances.

70. (Original) The method of claim 68, wherein the first identifier includes a random number associated with the first user and the second identifier includes a second random number associated with the second user.

71. (Original) The method of claim 68, further comprising:
authenticating an identification of the first and second users; and
assigning the first identifier to the first user and the second identifier to the second user based on said authenticating.

72. (Original) The method of claim 71, wherein said authenticating comprises:
transmitting a request for a user name and a password to the first and second users;
receiving the user name and password from the first and the second users; and
comparing the user name and password to stored parameters.

73. (Original) The method of claim 68, further comprising:
receiving a fourth request from the first user, the fourth request including the first identifier without any further user and session application variables; and
processing the request with the first application instance based on stored user and session management system variables.

74. (Original) The method of claim 68, further comprising:
receiving a fourth request from the second user, the fourth request including the second identifier without any further user and session variables; and
processing the request with the second application instance based on stored user and session management system variables.

75. (Previously Presented) A method for interacting with a central server over a computer network, comprising:
transmitting a first request to a central server, the first request including a user identifier;

receiving a first application instance in response to the first request; and
transmitting a second request to the central server, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables; and

receiving a response to the second request from the application instance.

76. (Original) The method of claim 75, wherein the first identifier does not include user and session variables for use by the first application instance.

77. (Previously Presented) A method for interacting with a central server over a computer network, comprising:

transmitting a first request to a central server in a first user session, the first request including a user identifier;

receiving a first application instance in response to the first request; and

transmitting a second request to the central server in a second user session, the second request including the identifier used to identify both a session and a user without further user or session application variables; and

receiving a response to the second request from the application instance.

78. (Original) The method of claim 77, wherein the first identifier does not include user and session variables for use by the application instance.

IX. EVIDENCE APPENDIX

There is no additional evidence to be submitted in connection with this Appeal Brief.

X. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None